

industry of the author, although his methods are not likely to be adopted by practical botanists. Philological, antiquarian, and other discussions of length occur constantly, and seem altogether out of place in a modern Flora. A case in point may be found under *Helvina Dioscoridis*, which, by the way, is the correct name (*vide* Bubani) of the Linnean *Parietaria officinalis*. "Quid est *Perdicium*, Theophr. Hist. pl. c. 11?" Then follows a dissertation of some twenty lines, which doubtless would appeal to the classical scholar, but which most botanists would dismiss as useless. *Viscum album* (our mistletoe) becomes, with Theophrastus, Dioscorides, and Pliny as his authorities, *Stelin album*, Bubani. Holy Writ is frequently appealed to, and *Quercus vulgaris*, Bibl. Sacr. Genesis, chapt. xxxv. v. 8 (?), does duty for our common British *Q. pedunculata*. We do not know Hebrew, but it seems absurd to state (even if the assertion be queried by its maker) that the following verse gives us any information as to the species of oak meant:—"But Deborah Rebekah's nurse died, and she was buried beneath Bethel under an oak: and the name of it was called Allon-bachuth." Of the three common European Poplars, Theophrastus, Homer, and the Bible are respectively quoted as the authorities for *Populus tremula*, *P. nigra*, and *P. alba*. The descriptions given in the works cited by Dr. Bubani are certainly insufficient to enable us to determine the species.

The treatment of *Prunella vulgaris* occupies seven pages. There is neither here nor elsewhere in the book any specific descriptions, but full synonymy and citations are given, as well as localities, and critical notes on the structure and affinities &c. of the plant.

But we cannot conclude our notice of this remarkable work without quoting a learned critic, who writes:—"A volume of such learning and erudition, and one so accurately compiled, must, in spite of its eccentricities, have a warm welcome in the botanist's library."

G. N.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Note on Pamphila gonessa, Hew. By F. A. HERON.

THE name of this species is, as mentioned by Dr. W. J. Holland in his paper on the African Hesperids (Proc. Zool. Soc. 1896, p. 102), omitted from Kirby's list of the Hewitson collection, but the type itself is in the collection under *crataceæ*, Snellen, of which it is a synonym.

Beneath the specimen the pin bears the labels "*gonessa*, Hew." (in Hewitson's own writing), and "Angola" (printed); but these names are not visible unless the insect is reversed.

No. 345 of Holland's list is therefore only an additional synonym of his no. 149.